



February 26, 2018

Commissioner Robert Taub, Chairman
Commissioner Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Nanci Langley
Commissioner Mark Acton
Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268

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POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

RE: Docket No. RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners:

We join the National Catholic Development Conference (NCDC), the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, and the nonprofit mailing community in urging you to reconsider your proposal to increase postage rates several times the rate of inflation. Increases that are estimated to reach 7 percent a year, or 40 percent compounded for five years, will not reform the United States Postal Service and will have a major negative impact on both the agency and its customers.

As a nonprofit, we rely on mail for the majority of our fundraising. But we operate on a limited, fixed fundraising budget each year, so if postage goes up as much as you contemplate, we will be forced to greatly reduce our mailings. This will have a disastrous impact on our revenue and our mission.

Our mission is to serve the collegiate community in Columbia. We invite all on our campuses to experience authentic friendship and an intimate relationship with Christ. We empower disciples to love serve, and value all persons on their campuses and in their future communities to share the richness of the faith.

A 40 percent increase in postage over the next five years would have a tangible impact on our ability to serve the community. An increase of this magnitude would be the same cost as our service and justice ministries, which allow our students to learn about the needs of our world and give them opportunities to serve. Similarly, the proposed cost increase is the same cost as our leadership formation efforts, which form our students to be leaders in their future communities. Increases in postage will seriously strain these programs as well as others.

Please do the right thing and reconsider your proposal.

Sincerely,



JoAnn Shull | Development Director
St. Thomas More Newman Center
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